Hide and Seek

This is an easy quick activity to brush up on finding points someone else has already saved or points you had saved before. A deck of cards is a nice tool but any numbered sheets of paper, or other unique trinkets would work as well.

1.   First each person gets a card, or an object to place around the training area. When you leave the object sitting somewhere easily found, save the point by clicking and holding the Enter Button (lower left.) The flag man should appear and clicking the Enter Button a second time saves the point.
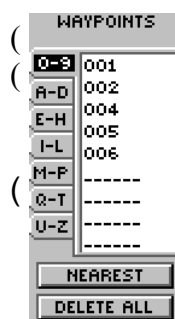
2.   Everyone returns from placing their objects to exchange GPS units. The next person pages to the main menu to determine what was placed by the previous person. Navigate to the last waypoint in the list and go to that point so that the GPS guides you there.
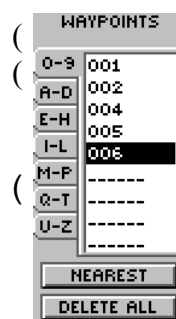
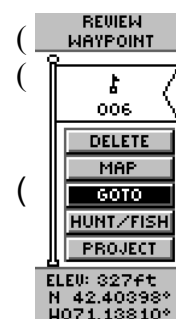toggle down-click enter   click enter   click enter   click enter

The compass page will appear with distance and a direction to find what has been marked. Remember, the arrow only works while you are moving and once you are within 20 feet you should be on top of what was marked.

3. For more practice, participants should return to a central location and exchange GPS units with others until everyone has looked for several items. On the last time out, have everyone pick up the objects to return to their teacher.

4. Many easy variations could include the teacher going through an interpretive walk around your school grounds and uploading saved points to a computer using the DNRGarmin free tool. (You will need the download cable to do this.) Then you can upload the points back to the rest of the GPS units before sending your class out with a worksheet of activity descriptions of what to do at each of the sites you have chosen.

5. There are many other variations that would be good to try after this. Geocaching is really just a form of hide and seek. A favorite alternate is to pick out any number of locations and write a riddle or poem or some clue about what it is in each spot that you want students to look for or describe or take its picture. On a sheet with the clues each student must write what they think the clue described on a worksheet you prepare for them. An example follows on the back.

Aye, mate - the hunt for the perfect picture!

You will be using the GPS to guide you along a path. There are seven stops along the way, at each location you are to take a picture of what your group believes is described at that spot plus take a couple pictures of the surrounding beauty with your team members in action. When you return to the computer lab, download your pictures remembering the 8 best you took to copy back to your computer.   The clues:

1.) Start down the path off the back lot, take the right path once your GPS is hot.
Up and over small hill you'll be there in a whistle,
what you want a shot of is the head tall old…?

2.) Look around for the flowers near the next site to shoot,
lower cursor to wpt 002, go to,   then skoot.

3.) Cranium rock looks like a fossilized egg
stuck high off the path midst rocky crag

4.) Waypoint number four shows nature at best   one force tearing down the other holds fast,
tree roots stabilizing the wash is its job   holding the canyon from sliding down like a mob.

5.) Point five holds a treasure of fruity delight, look up 'bove the road at about twice your height.

6.) Before reaching the last point your paths will diverge,
one less traveled and rocky the other covered in ferns.
Here's where to follow your GPS with care,
take a picture at the fork of which trail led you there.
(both paths lead back don't worry, choose the one that looks best to your group and don't worry what the others choose.)

7.) The last waypoint takes you under the guardian trees
standing silent like sentinels protecting your ways.

8.) Take one last picture once you've reached the road,
of your group be careful of cars now return to download.   (You can turn off your gps and camera.)

Picture #	Description	Your top 8 pictures:
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	